

TOP SECRET

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30 January 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 30 January 1969

The Director noted the loss of Mr. Allen Dulles, relating that he was advised of his death by Mrs. Dulles at 0730 this morning. He observed that he has taken steps to inform the White House and to advise President Eisenhower via General Goodpaster, and he noted that the Executive Director and the DD/S were at the Dulles residence and hence unable to attend the Meeting.

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DD/I mentioned the completion of a memorandum analyzing the Arab-Israeli balance of power. The Director concurred in his suggestion that the memorandum be provided to Secretaries Rogers and Laird, Mr. Kissinger, and General Wheeler and asked that copies also be provided to Deputy Secretary Packard and Under Secretary Richardson.

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DD/I raised his planned appearance before the Midcareer Course on 5 February in response to an earlier suggestion from the Director. DD/P noted that he will also be making a presentation before the Midcareer Course on 5 February. After some discussion of the Office of Training's desire that Deputy Directors attend whenever possible, the Director asked that other arrangements be made in view of the current workload and demands on the Agency at this time.

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Godfrey called attention to today's New York Times item by James Feron linking the trial of thirty-five Iraqis to an alleged plot of espionage resulting in the 1966 defection of an Iraqi pilot and MIG-21.

Godfrey noted that, per Admiral Moorer's instructions, Pueblo hearings will be going into closed session.

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Bross reported that General Carroll expressed his concern to him last evening with respect to having some advance knowledge of the substance of the Director's NSC briefings. Godfrey noted that the material provided to the Director is fully coordinated except for last-minute developments. The Director mentioned that he briefs on the assumption that the substance fed to him for briefing purposes is the result of joint CIA/DIA coordination and understanding. The Director concurred in Godfrey's suggestion that the substance of the entire briefing be sent to DIA in advance. DDCI suggested that copies also be provided to ONE, which can then handle any inquiries from its USIB counterparts.

DDCI noted that he will be chairing the USIB meeting today and that all his questions on the North Korean Estimate have been favorably resolved.

DDCI called attention to a letter which he received from the Rand Corporation inviting Agency participation in a 13-16 March review panel. He noted that the purpose of the panel is to review national security planning operations for the past eight years in order to create a historical record and analyze lessons learned. He pointed to the security problems related to the agenda topic Intelligence Planning. The Director asked that the Rand letter be turned over to him for consideration.

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DDCI noted that he will be paying farewell calls on Senators Russell and Thurmond this afternoon.

DDCI expressed his warm appreciation for last night's affair honoring his retirement and service to the Agency.

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[Redacted Signature]

L. K. White

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Israelis Seeking Ways to Help Jews of Baghdad

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Israelis Consulting On Ways to Assist The Jews of Iraq

By JAMES FERON

Special to The New York Times

TEL AVIV, Jan. 29—Israeli officials are consulting with friendly governments and international organizations over ways to help the Jewish community in Iraq, which they believe is seriously threatened.

The talks began in secret before the espionage trial in Iraq that led to the hanging of 14 persons, nine of them Jews, as spies on Monday. They are being intensified now with the reported start of a second trial.

According to officials here who monitor the Baghdad radio, 35 Iraqis are being tried this time. Thirteen of them are Jewish.

They are being accused of espionage for Israel and of having organized the defection of an Iraqi pilot, Capt. Munir Rufa'a, who flew to Israel in a MIG-21 in 1966.

In the second trial, it appears, the United States will be accused more specifically of collaboration, according to these monitored reports.

The Israeli efforts in behalf of the once-flourishing

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Jewish community in Baghdad seem to be focusing on ways of persuading the Iraqis to allow the remaining Jews to leave.

There are estimated to be 2,500 Jews left in Baghdad of the 150,000 who lived there and in other Iraqi cities before the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. An estimated 120,000 came to Israel in 1950.

Many of the 2,500 were imprisoned after the six-day war, in June 1967, and many more last December when Israeli planes attacked Iraqi positions in Jordan, Israeli officials have said. The rest have been virtually isolated in their quarters of Baghdad.

The Israeli authorities have been reluctant to express too much public interest in the Jews of Iraq, Syria and the United Arab Republic partly out of fear of exposing these Jews to charges of dual nationality. Besides, their situation, in general, has not been considered too unsatisfactory.

They Spoke Out Twice

Officials here spoke up twice, however. The first occasion occurred after the 1967 war, when Egyptian authorities arrested more than 200 heads of families in Cairo. These men are still believed to be in prison. On the second occasion, the officials demanded that any United Nations investigation of the condition of Arabs in the areas occupied by Israel in the war be coupled with an investigation of the situation of Jews in Arab lands.

With the hangings and the Iraqi report of more spy trials to come, authorities here are beginning to change their minds about tactics.

Silence on the part of Israeli authorities apparently has not done any good, nor has the

policy of inaction and restraint, according to some qualified sources.

The frustration that is beginning to rise in official circles here is based, in some measure, on the international reaction, which seems to Israel to be expressed more in concern over possible Israeli retaliation than in concern over the Jewish Iraqis.

Little Talk of Reprisal

There is still little talk here of an Israeli military reaction to the hangings, in part because this would contradict the Israeli policy of using raids as warnings rather than reprisals, and also because this might do more harm than good.

One Foreign Ministry official said tonight that a "warning" here is based, in some measure, on the international reply by the United States State Department against a reprisal raid is a bit irrelevant because the idea "is to save lives, not to further endanger them."

Defense Minister Moshe Dayan underlined this view publicly tonight when he spoke of Israel's duty to Jews still living in Iraq. He was addressing a meeting of the Labor party in Tel Aviv.

"We must do all in our power to save lives," he declared, "by mobilizing outside elements, powers, states and international factors. We must also refrain from doing anything that will endanger the lives of Jews who remain there or helping the wave destroy them."

In other influential circles, however, it is said that the value of the Baghdad Jews to the Iraqi Government as hostages will decline with each trial and each execution. These circles suggest that Israel's hand cannot be stayed indefinitely.

According to information available here, Iraqi authorities

intend to present evidence, connection with the murder of two Iraqi pilots who served with Captain Rufa'a, the pilot who defected three years ago. One of the officers was married to an American woman who disappeared immediately after her husband's death. This prompted Iraqi investigators to say they believe that American authorities cooperated with Israel in the alleged plot.

Captain Rufa'a flew over Jordanian territory and was escorted to a military airfield by two Israeli pilots.

He Expressed Disillusion

The Israeli account, which was given to newsmen in the presence of the Iraqi pilot who defected, was that he had written a letter to authorities here expressing his disillusion with the Baghdad Government and explaining how he planned to escape.

He explained that only Israel among the nations with a flying range of Baghdad would be assured of not being sent back to Baghdad. The MIG-21 represented the first model of the Russian-built fighter to come under Western inspection.

Among the accused in the second Baghdad trial is a man identified as Ahmed Attieh, said to have been the intermediary between the defecting pilot and others accused of complicity in the plot.

According to these accounts, the affair was organized with a number of Iraqi officers, including the defecting pilot, who were studying in military schools in the United States.

The former head of Iraqi military intelligence, Brig. Abdul Rahman el-Naif, is said to be among the accused. He apparently will be charged with failure to proceed with an investigation of the defection, though he had enough information for a trial.